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PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D. Commissioner of Education

FROM: Mark Schultz, NDE Deputy Commissioner Lindy Foley, Director, Nebraska VR

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve contract #38358 and #39000 with Easterseals Nebraska. Easterseals will conduct the Nebraska Empowered Youth Camp and the Inspiring ChangeMakers leadership training program. These programs will be for students with disabilities, age 14-21, enrolled in high school during the 2018-19 school year.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Nebraska VR (Vocational Rehabilitation) requested proposals for the development and implementation of innovative short-term programs to provide career exploration and personal development opportunities for transition students with disabilities during the summer of 2018. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) mandates that VR agencies set aside 15% of their budgets for pre-employment transition services. One of several initiatives in the area of pre-employment transition services includes this RFP.

ESTIMATED COST: Contract #38358: \$14,220; Contract #39000: \$48,461

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS INDICATE THE FUNDING SOURCE

Federal Funds Grant Award H126A1700390 – State Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VR)